

"Ashland Grows While Lithia Flows"
City of Sunshine and Flowers

ASHLAND TIDINGS

Ashland, Oregon, Lithia Springs
"The Carlsbad of America"

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Electric Changes Nearly Complete

The city and company lighting systems in Ashland will be one after today. The city electrician and his assistants have now practically completed the synchronizing of the two systems, and some of the patrons of the city current are even now using company current without knowing it. The change will not be noticeable to anyone. Beginning with the first of January all bills will come from the city electric light department.

The new ordinance covering electric light matters is printed elsewhere in this issue and should receive the attention of every reader. Since the ordinance covers all of the new rules and regulations, most of which have been in force before, these will not be printed in this article. The hearing rates and rules are practically the same as those of the Ashland Electric Power and Light Company. Hereafter there will be no deviation from the established rate for power, one cent per hour being the minimum charge. According to City Electrician Strickland, the few minor changes which were made in light rates affect only a few places in town either one way or the other. Special attention is called to the rule providing a penalty for all bills which are not paid by the 10th of the month. The ordinance should receive every citizen's careful attention.

Carmen and Chaplin Make Strong Bill

The Vining Theatre has the most attractive bill of moving pictures for New Year's eve and New Year's afternoon and evening which has been offered at that theatre for some time. Geraldine Farrar, the famous opera singer, appears in moving pictures for the first time in a film version of the famous opera, "Carmen." In "Carmen" Miss Farrar is seen as the half-wild, fascinating gypsy who is the head of a band of smugglers. How she leads one man to death and another to ruin and is herself stabbed by a jealous lover are but incidents in this thrilling five-reel picture.

In addition to this feature the Vining has secured Charlie Chaplin in his latest two-reel comedy, "Shanghaied." This will make one of the best bills yet shown. On New Year's eve there will be a continuous performance from 7:30 to midnight. A matinee at 2:30 Saturday afternoon and usual performance hour Saturday night.

Educators Urge Ashland Normal

The following resolution was adopted yesterday afternoon by the Oregon State Teachers' Association: "Whereas, we recognize the importance of properly trained teachers in improving education standards and conditions in the state and especially in the rural schools, and

"Whereas, Governor Withycombe in his message to the legislative assembly pointed out the need of more normal school facilities in Oregon;

"Therefore, be it resolved that we earnestly call attention to this need, heartily endorse Governor Withycombe's recommendation in the matter and especially recommend that proper steps be taken to provide normal schools in southern and eastern Oregon."

Some Great Bills At The Lyric

On Thursday and Friday William Farnum of "The Spoilers" fame will be seen in one of the greatest characterizations in his career. "The Nigger" will be the vehicle for his wonderful acting.

Every critic who has reviewed this great film play is unanimous in declaring it greater than "The Spoilers."

On Friday and Saturday Manager Lawrence has contracted for the most unique vaudeville act ever at the Lyric, the Great La Valle. If you want something novel it is worth while. Lots of clean comedy and some excellent singing.

The Lyric orchestra will give a concert each evening before and during the regular picture program.

The Tidings is on sale at Foley's

Program Out For Farmers' Week

The full program for Farmers', Homemakers' and Conference week at the Oregon Agricultural College, which will be held January 3-8 at Corvallis, has been received by the Tidings. Anyone in Ashland who is interested and wishes to look over the program may do so at the Tidings office, or the Agricultural College will send the bulletin free upon request.

This week for the farmers of the state is annually taken advantage of by hundreds from every section of the state. A number of distinguished men and women, specialists in their respective fields, have been secured to assist in the instructional work of the week. In addition to the instruction there will be entertainment provided. The winter short course at the college will commence Monday, January 10, and extend to February 4. Practical farmers are especially invited to investigate the attractions offered by the short course.

Blake Temporary C. A. C. Captain

Last Monday evening Lieutenant W. E. Blake of the Ashland company of the Coast Artillery Corps took over command of the organization pending the election of a captain to succeed C. A. Malone. Mr. Malone's plans are not definitely formulated as yet, and the selection of a new captain will not be hurried. When the city takes over the Ashland electric company's distribution system in Ashland, Mr. Malone, manager of the company, will be transferred to another branch.

During the captaincy of Mr. Malone the 1st company has been brought to a high state of efficiency and stability. When he took the position the company was \$300 in debt. It is now even, and the next allowance from the state can be used in fixing up quarters and providing equipment for recreation. Mr. Malone has established a system of discipline which has welded the members of the company together and raised the standard. Many of the prominent business men have joined lately and the C. A. C. company is one of the strongest organizations of its kind in the state. The company loses a good officer, a leader and a friend when Mr. Malone leaves. Several local business men are eligible for the captaincy.

Curtain Rises 8:15 Tonight's Show

The curtain will go up at 8:15 o'clock this evening on the first show of the Empress vaudeville which will show in Ashland every Thursday evening providing the patronage justifies.

Frederick and Fraser are the headliners of the bill for tonight and offer \$25 to any person in the audience whose name they can not tell. This team was the hit of the bill in Salem and Portland and presents some entirely new stuff in the line of mind reading.

Five other acts make up the bill. Curtain at eight-fifteen sharp.

Raises Luscious Big Persimmons

While C. C. Cate, the new Jackson county pathologist, was visiting Ashland a few days ago, Albert Johnson gave him a few samples of persimmons grown on a three-year-old tree which he obtained from the Department of Agriculture at Washington, D. C. These specimens were the largest and finest appearing persimmons ever shown in this section. One of them weighed 341 grams, or nearly two-thirds of a pound. It was luscious and of delicious flavor. Mr. Johnson did not know the name of the variety of persimmon it is, but Mr. Cate will ascertain and have something to say about producing them commercially in this valley. They are a delicious and wholesome fruit and ought to be produced in sufficient abundance for home consumption at least.

Invest a dime in a bag of Butler's chocolates and take them home to the wife. She likes good candy and you will have the best.

Local News in Brief

Several of the banks and business houses of the city are remembering their customers with artistic 1916 calendars.

Congressman Hawley at Washington, D. C., is working out a plan to secure funds for a road in to the Josephine County Caves.

The Elkhorn gun store, Ashland headquarters for all kinds of sports men's supplies, has been purchased from B. M. Shoudy by C. L. McKinney, a new arrival from Topeka, Kan. The new owner is now in possession.

As a result of several auto accidents in Medford, the police officials of that city are strictly enforcing all traffic rules, and Ashland motorists should watch their Ps and Qs when in the neighboring town.

Another caterpillar tractor has been added to the list of those already used in orchard work in the valley by W. H. Bingham, who has installed a Yuba caterpillar on his ranch east of Talent.

Shriners' wives and daughters are requested to meet at Hotel Oregon at 7:15 Saturday evening, going from there to the Vining Theatre. After the performance they will proceed to the Masonic hall, where entertainment and refreshments will be provided by the committee.

Frank Kittredge, former resident engineer in charge of the building of

the Siskiyou grade, is in the valley with his wife for a visit with relatives. He is now superintendent of the construction of a California highway on which convict labor is being used and has some interesting experiences to relate regarding the work with the convicts.

Ordinarily Bill Moor, postoffice carrier, hikes nine miles per day on his delivery rounds. Ed Hadfield fourteen miles and Don Spencer seventeen miles. During the Christmas rush add about 75 per cent to the distance and goodness knows how many pounds to their loads and you realize the burden which the parcel post is to the carriers.

The Ashland high school orchestra went to Medford yesterday morning and played before the western division state teachers' association. In the afternoon a trio composed of Misses Vandersluis and Hodgson and John Anderson played for the gathering of educators.

Two Interurban cars made the morning and evening trips from here to Medford to accommodate the teachers and students who attended the teachers' institute and meeting of the western division of the state association at Medford the first three days of this week. Many of the local teachers spent the week with Medford friends.

Hundreds of Trees for Park

Superintendent Graves and his helpers have taken 15,000 ferns from Ashland canyon and are planting them in the new Lithia park. Four hundred pines, firs and cedars ranging from two to thirty feet in height have also been planted, and a total of 700 will be planted. The band concourse will be planted with European sycamores, one hundred trees being allotted to the concourse. The wide path to the band stand from the entrance will be lined with these magnificent shade trees. The sycamores have a fast growth and furnish ideal shade.

Anyone who has any kind of fir, pine, juniper, etc., trees which they would be willing to donate would be doing a service for the city by calling up Supervisor Graves, who will be glad to use them. Many donations of trees have already been made.

The planting scheme in the park will be so carried out as to make the Lithia park totally unique and different from ordinary formal parks, the natural beauties being preserved everywhere. The planting of shrubs and trees will necessarily go on up until the last of April as some of the trees and plants can only be planted during the spring months.

John Lewis Is Head Of Highway Work

The Oregon supreme court has decided that State Engineer John H. Lewis was the commander-in-chief of the highway building forces in Oregon. The decision comes after months of controversy over whether Lewis or E. I. Cantine was the high mogul of the work.

The law passed by the last legislature consolidated the office of state highway engineer with that of the state engineer. It provided that the governor should appoint the chief deputy in the engineer's office and that this deputy should be versed in highway engineering. When the offices were consolidated Governor James Withycombe appointed Cantine, who was highway engineer up to the time his office was abolished, as chief deputy. After his appointment, Cantine maintained that although he was a deputy in the engineer's office the new law left him in full control of highway work. He was sustained in this contention by Governor Withycombe, who refused to recognize Lewis as in charge of highway work.

Hot tamales, chili or hot drinks at Butler's are the best you can buy and drive out the little cold germs. It

Mr. and Mrs. C. F. Shepherd are visiting their son Earl T. Shepherd in Klamath Falls.

It takes a lot of sentiment out of war when you consider a soldier's principal business seems to be stopping bullets.



GEORGE A. BRISCOE.

Superintendent of Ashland Schools, who was elected Vice-President of the State Teachers' Association.

Eugene Boys Enjoy Ashland Visit

The Eugene Register prints a letter from one of the members of the Y. M. C. A. delegation who were visitors in Ashland last week, telling of the trip. The writer, F. D. Foster, was especially enthusiastic over the reception received at Ashland. The Register says: "Ashland was highly spoken of in the letter, the reception received there being exceptional."

Boys' Band Meets Again Friday Aft.

The boys' band will meet Friday afternoon at 2:30 at the city hall. All boys with instruments will turn out. Those who have not yet procured instruments are urged to do so as soon as possible so as to get an even start with the rest.

Watch Night.

Watch night at the Methodist church Friday evening. The Presbyterians and Methodists unite in this service. Others are cordially invited to meet with them. Program: 9 p. m., song service, led by Dr. C. F. Tilton.

Scripture lesson and prayer. Talks by laymen. General subject, "The Outlook."

"Present Conditions," C. B. Lamkin.

"What We Need," Dr. G. W. Gregg.

"How Are We Going to Get It?" Mr. Shinn.

"What We Ought to Do," J. O. Rigg.

Open discussion.

"Temperance Outlook," Rev. H. A. Carnahan.

Social hour. Refreshments.

11:30, devotional and praise.

Take some of Butler's hot tamales home with you tonight. It will be a treat for the family.

City Council in Two Short Meets

The city council met in brief session last Thursday evening and canvassed the votes of last Tuesday's election. Several minor matters were referred to committees who will report at a later meeting. Smith, Emery & Co. asked that the city take over the closing up of the mineral water ditches where it was necessary to cut the pavement. The ditches are all being filled, but the pavement can be better relaid later in the spring, and the Smith-Emery people wish to close up the contract. Hence they wish to have the council contract to lay the pavement and ask that the probable cost be estimated so that a check for the amount may be left.

At another brief council meeting held Monday night the city agreed to take care of the paving, the company to pay the cost. No other matters of importance except the electric ordinance were discussed.

One Day Before Arid State is Here

The thirteen miles of pavement between Ashland and Medford are being kept warm during this last week of preparation for the coming dry spell. On Friday evening a good proportion of the population of Ashland who take their occasional nip will hie themselves to Medford to accord their departing love a fitting farewell. The stock of wet goods in the Medford thirst emporiums is sadly depleted and few of the saloonmen expect to have much left to ship out of the state.

Ashland will probably be the driest town in the state after the first of the year, the near proximity of the oases over the border precluding the paying of high prices for inferior "bootlegged" booze. An hour's auto ride over the magnificent Siskiyou grade takes the thirsty Ashlander to Hill, Cal., where restoratives are obtainable. No doubt a jitney service over the Siskiyou grade will be established this summer when the road is more passable.

But then why worry about the future? Four kinds of mineral waters are flowing in Ashland park, and anyway there is a whole day left.

N. B.—Rumors from Medford are to the effect that the water system is being investigated to ascertain whether it will supply the increased demands after January 1.

Coldest Since The Year 1899

According to observations taken by Co-operative Government Weather Observer Louis Dodge, the thermometer went down to 9 1/2 degrees above zero last night. This is the coldest temperature recorded in Ashland for sixteen years. This morning dawned bright and clear and the sun had things well thawed out by noon. Frozen pipes were a common complaint, most of the plumbing in Ashland not being put in to stand any such cold. This weather is slightly, but to most of us pleasantly, "unusual."

Ashland Girl in Honolulu Pageant

We are in receipt of the December number of "Paradise of the Pacific," a beautiful magazine printed in Honolulu, Hawaii. The number contains an account of the Pacific People's Flag Pageant held on September 25, the date of the discovery of the Pacific ocean by Balboa. Big representations from every country bordering on the Pacific presented flags to the newly formed Pacific club through the Hawaiian queen, Liliuokalani. Miss Frances Hamlin, an Ashland girl who is teaching in Honolulu, presented the Oregon banner. Flags were presented from representatives of the following countries and states: Australia, California, Canada, China, Hawaii, Korea, New Zealand, Oregon, Pan America, the Philippines, Portugal, Siberia and Washington.

The coldest weather in sixteen years has no discomforts for the people who have learned about Butler's chicken tamales, chili and hot drinks.

State Teachers' Meet Is Past

The fifteenth annual session of the State Teachers' Association came to a close at Medford last night. Over four hundred educators from all over the state and several prominent men from the outside were present and enjoyed a most pleasant and profitable gathering.

A union of the two divisions of the state association was effected and the following officers elected:

President, E. P. Carlton, assistant state superintendent, Salem.

Vice-president, George A. Briscoe, superintendent Ashland schools.

Executive committee: Miss V. Ortschild, Portland; Superintendent O. M. Elliott, Salem; Professor H. D. Sheldon, U. of O.; Superintendent J. Percy Wells, Jackson county.

Committee on credentials: Chairman, Professor E. D. Resler of O. A. C.; Superintendent J. G. Remel, Astoria; Superintendent F. B. Hamlin, Roseburg; County Superintendent C. P. Bonney, The Dalles; Mrs. M. S. Sukerson, Salem; W. T. Foster, president of Reed College; Miss Rea B. Parrot, Oregon normal.

A number of the Ashland high school students who are taking teachers' training, all of the Ashland teachers and most of the teachers from this end of the county attended. Local teachers and professors took a prominent part in the program and the local orchestra and musical department helped in the entertaining. In addition to the association meet, the county teachers' institute was held.

Besides the work of the meetings, several entertainments of various sorts were arranged for the visiting teachers.

First Snow Falls Tuesday Night

Track, track, track. For the first time in two years the genus small boy with his "single," his "flexible flyer" and his "bob" was in his glory Wednesday morning. About two inches of snow fell late Tuesday night and soon after daylight every hill in the city was alive with youngsters and their sleds. The day was bright and clear and the knowing ones say the snow has taken the grippe out of the air. At any rate everyone felt fully alive yesterday morning. The first sleigh of the winter made its appearance on the streets Wednesday morning. Last winter not enough snow fell to allow of coasting.

More About the Billings Hill

Again the Billings, or Farnham, or Ashland or whatever it is, hill is with us. Assistant Superintendent Lull of the Southern Pacific submitted plans for the proposed subway crossing of the Pacific Highway at the Billings hill, which were approved by the county court and State Highway Engineer Cantine Monday. The cost will approximate \$8,000. The plans now have to be approved by the chief officials of the Southern Pacific at San Francisco. When this approval has been received, construction can begin of this section of the highway, probably in the spring.

The wet weather of the past month and the slippery going on the hill has kept the feelings of valley motorists at the boiling point and any indication of improvement is anxiously awaited.

Special Writer Gets Material

Fred Lockley, special writer for the Portland Journal and author of numerous magazine articles and books, is in Ashland gathering material for the preparation of two booklets for the Southern Pacific railroad. These booklets are "Oregon Outdoors" and "Wayside Notes of the Shasta Route." The booklets are illustrated with photographs of scenes and contain brief writeups of points of special interest to the tourist. Mr. Lockley has kept in close touch with the resort development work here and has been partly instrumental in getting several valuable articles concerning Ashland into the Oregon Journal.